

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

The Status of the Claims

1-17 (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[17]]~~ 19, wherein ~~step (e) further includes the steps of: sending the routing message further comprises~~ [[c1)]] sending a translated routing number.

19. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 17, further including the steps of~~ A method of routing interLata network traffic, comprising:

receiving a query from a first service switching point at a switching control point;

determining, based on the query, if a call is an interLATA call;

when the call is the interLATA call, sending a routing message to the first service switching point, from the switching control point, the routing message identifying a hub service switching point;

[[d)]] receiving a query from the hub service switching point at the switching control point;

[[e)]] determining, based on the query, if the call is to a second virtual network; and

[[f]]] when the call is to the second virtual network, sending a response to route the call to a second hub service switching point in a second local access and transport area (LATA).

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 19, wherein ~~step (f) further includes the step of:~~ sending the response to route the call further comprises [[f1]]] sending a primary trunk group as part of the response.

21. (currently amended) The method of claim 19, wherein ~~step (f) further includes the step of:~~ sending the response to route the call further comprises [[f1]]] sending an abbreviated dial code as part of the response.

22. (currently amended) The method of claim 19, further ~~including the steps of~~ comprising:

[[g]]] receiving a query from a second hub service switching point at the switching control point; and

[[h]]] sending a response that includes a routing instruction.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[17]]~~ 19, further ~~including the steps of comprising:~~

[[d]] receiving a query from a hub service switching point at the switching control point;

[[e]] determining, based on the query, if the call is to an out of network call;
and

[[f]] when the call is the out of network call, sending a routing response to an interexchange carrier point of presence.

24. (currently amended) A method of routing interLATA network Traffic, comprising ~~the steps of:~~

[[a]] determining if an interLATA call is between a first virtual private network and a second virtual private network, the first and second virtual private networks facilitating at least one of abbreviated dialing or intercom dialing;

[[b]] when the interLATA call is between the first virtual private ~~neetwork~~ network and [[a]] the second virtual private network, routing the interLATA call over a tie line trunk group; and

[[c]] when the interLATA call is not between the first virtual private network and [[a]] the second virtual private network, routing the interLATA call to an interexchange carrier point of presence.

25. (currently amended) The method of claim 24, wherein ~~step (b) further includes the steps of~~ routing the interLATA call further comprises:

[[b1)]] routing the interLATA call to a first hub service switching point; and

[[b1)]] routing the interLATA call over the ~~tie line~~ trunk group to a second hub service switching point.

26. (currently amended) The method of claim 24, wherein ~~step (e) further includes the steps of:~~ routing the interLATA call to the interexchange carrier point of presence further comprises [[c1)]] routing the interLATA call to a first hub service switching point;

~~e2) routing the interLATA call to the interexchange carrier point of presence.~~

27. (new) A method of routing interLATA network traffic, comprising:

receiving a first query;

determining, based on the first query, if the call is an interLATA call;

when the call is the interLATA call, sending a routing message to a first point from a control point, the routing message identifying a hub point;

receiving a second query from the hub point at the control point;

determining, based on the second query, if the call is to a virtual private network; and

when the call is to the virtual private network, sending a response to route the call to a second point in a LATA.

28. (new) The method of claim 27, further comprising facilitating at least one of abbreviated dialing or intercom dialing between the virtual private network and another virtual private network.